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The society, by vote at the same meeting, adopted the following preamble and resolution, and instructed the secretary to send copies thereof to the executive authorities of the United States, Canada, Mexico, Newfoundland and the West Indies; to the governors of Alaska, the Philippines, the Hawaiian Islands, Porto Rico and the Canal Zone; to the directors of the several weather bureaus and geological surveys; to the secretaries of the Smithsonian and Carnegie Institutions, the Seismological Society of America and the Committee on Seismology of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. The preamble and resolution, which were drawn up and signed by a committee consisting of Professor T. A. Jaggar, Jr., Massachusetts Institute of Technology; Professor James F. Kemp, Columbia University, and Dr. Edmund Otis Hovey, American Museum of Natural History, are as follows:

WHEREAS: The United States, Canada and Mexico possess in the Cordilleran Belt, Alaska, the Philippines, the Hawaiian Islands, Porto Rico and the Canal Zone a wide field for investigation of active volcanoes and earth movements; and

WHEREAS: Geological science needs permanent records, made in the field, of physical phenomena accompanying earthquakes and eruptions both before and after the event; and

WHEREAS: Such record has direct bearing on prediction, and on protection of life and property, therefore be it

*Resolved*, That the Geological Society of America strongly recommends to the several North American governments and to private enterprise the establishment of volcano and earthquake observatories.

TAKING into consideration the serious damage caused by fire at previous exhibitions, the executive committee of the Turin International Exhibition of 1911 has decided to open an international competition for preparations best adapted to render incombustible the wood and cloth structure of the exhibition, and will award a prize of lire 4,000 and two gold medals and two silver medals in this connection. The preparations must be such that they can be applied without visible alteration of the color and resistance of the materials.

THE President has signed a proclamation creating the Jewel Cave National Monument within the Black Hills National Forest, South Dakota. This remarkable cave, which is located thirteen miles west and south of Custer, the county-seat of Custer County, in a limestone formation, is believed by geologists to be an extinct geyser channel. The National Monument will embrace an area of 1,280 acres. This cave, which was explored as late as 1900, has been found to consist of a series of chambers connected by narrow passages with numerous galleries, the walls of which are encrusted with a magnificent layer of calcite crystal. The opening of the cave is situated in Hell Canyon, the walls of which are high and precipitous. The surface of the country in which the cave is located consists of a high rolling limestone plateau about 6,000 feet above sea level. The area is almost entirely covered by a forest of bull pine, a considerable portion of which is merchantable, while the remainder consists of a vigorous young growth. The Jewel Cave National Monument will now be given permanent protection by virtue of the Act of June 8, 1906, which provides that objects of scientific interest may be declared National Monuments if such action is deemed necessary for their preservation and protection.

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#### UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL NEWS

By the will of Mrs. Amy Sheldon, of Newport, a bequest of \$300,000 to Harvard University is made in the codicil. It is requested that the money be used for the rebuilding or enlargement of the university library building known as Gore Hall, but if the corporation does not desire to use the money in this way it may do otherwise. In addition to this bequest the university is to receive a portion of the residuary estate, to be known as the Frederick Sheldon fund, the income to be used for the promotion of traveling by students after graduation.

By the will of Royal L. Smith, of Plattsburg, N. Y., various public bequests are made and the residue of his estate is to form a trust fund to educate the boys of Clinton

County by furnishing them funds to pay their expenses at preparatory schools and colleges. The daily papers state that this fund will amount to at least \$2,000,000 and probably to \$3,000,000.

By the will of the late Mary E. Ives, Yale University receives \$10,000 for the Art School, and \$10,000 for a fellowship in philosophy for women.

By the will of Edward Hall Cole, of Brooklyn, \$9,000 is given to St. Lawrence University, at Canton, N. Y.

MR. WILLIAM S. MATHER has given \$5,000 to Trinity College to be added to the fund for the payment of salaries.

THE contract for the erection of the new building for the College of Physicians, of Philadelphia, was awarded January 28. The building will cost \$300,000, and is to be erected at Twenty-second and Ludlow Streets. It will be a two-story fireproof brick and stone structure, 110 by 150 feet, containing a museum, lecture hall, library, laboratory and portrait gallery. It is said that the work of erection will be started at once.

At the January meeting of the regents of the University of Michigan, architects were authorized to draw up detailed plans and specifications for a new chemistry building. The structure, which will be three stories and a basement in height, is to be 270 feet long and 150 feet wide, with the 150 foot front located on North University about 75 feet west of the gymnasium—where the dental building is now situated. It will be of brick with stone trimmings and with interior of reinforced construction throughout. There are to be two interior courts separated by a crossbar connecting opposite sides of the building. The cost complete will probably be \$275,000.

*Nature*, quoting from the *Pioneer Mail* states that the Maharaja of Darbhanga, has made a gift of nearly £17,000 to the Lieutenant Governor for the purpose of constructing a library building in connection with the Calcutta University.

At the midwinter commencement of the University of Nebraska, on February 14, there

were graduated 16 bachelors of arts, 10 bachelors of science, 3 bachelors of laws, 3 masters of arts and 1 doctor of philosophy. Those receiving advanced degrees are as follows: Doctor of philosophy: Brayton Howard Ransom in zoology; thesis—"Some Cestodes from North American Birds." Masters of arts: Venus Worrell Pool in botany; thesis—"Some Tomato Fruit Rots." Leva Belle Walker in botany; thesis—"A New Form of *Sphaeropsis* on Apple" and "Zonation in Artificial Cultures of Fungi." John Bennett Whelan in chemistry; thesis—"Studies in the Reductions of Aldehydes and Ketones."

THE new medical laboratories building in connection with Queen's University, Kingston, Ont., was opened formally on January 14. Biology, histology, pathology, physiology and bacteriology will occupy this building. The Ontario government contributed \$50,000 toward this new building.

DR. HENRY T. BOVEY, dean of the faculty of applied science at McGill University, has resigned to accept the principalship of the Imperial College of Science and Technology, London.

THE Rev. C. L. White has resigned the presidency of Colby College to engage in work for the Baptist Home Mission Society.

PROFESSOR E. HERSHEY SNEATH, who resigned his chair at Yale University two years ago owing to ill health, has accepted an appointment as lecturer on philosophy in the graduate school. Dr. Roswell P. Angier has been promoted to an assistant professorship of psychology.

HOWARD E. SIMPSON, instructor in geology at Colby College, Waterville, Maine, has been appointed associate professor.

MR. G. G. CHISHOLM has been appointed lecturer on geography at Edinburgh University.

THE council of the University of Sheffield has appointed Mr. John L. Annan, M.B., Ch.B. (Edin.), to the post of demonstrator in anatomy. Mr. Annan is at present at the University of Edinburgh.